



Men Against Violence Against Women

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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN (editors, heads of news etc.)

THE VIOLENCE IN ARCHITECTURE

The most **insidious**, **crippling** and **challenging** problem facing the profession of **Architecture** today is “**Shelter and Settlement Violence**”, generally called **Domestic Violence**.

Insidious, in that the profession has failed to date, to accept, recognize, appreciate and solutionise for the prevalence of Violence that emanates from the **Familial Environment**, which always include some form of **Shelter**.

Crippling, in that regardless of the beautiful structures built and secured, dysfunctional human beings, continue to wreck havoc, in and around such space solutions.

Challenging, in that the necessary **Research** to inform Curriculum Design for **Programmes in Architecture** is not yet deemed essential, especially Research to assist in **Behaviour Change Strategies**.

In addition, no attention is being paid to the increasing demand for “**Transitional Homes**”, for both **men and women**, who have been living in **Violent Relationships**. Said Homes, obviously, have to be designed, using an informed base on the “**Psychosocial Effects of Enclosed Space on Human Behavior**”.

Until the majority of **Architects** stop believing that **Architecture** is a profession for **Architects** and is instead, a **Service To Mankind**, which shapes Space to provide maximum comfort, increase production levels and reduce frustration levels, eventually contributing to balanced human beings, we will not be given the opportunity to have as an Ally, one of the most important partners in Mankind’s Quest for full Democratic development, namely “**Gender Sensitive Architects**”.

Hats off to modern day **Architects** like **Colin Laird**, who in my view, realizes that the two most Critical Components of **Architecture** in the **Future** will be “**Green and Natural Growth Architecture**”

SignedDONALD BERMENT Secretary MAVAW.

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P.O.R.O.